Food Service Scam Alert

The Cudahy Health Department has been notified by the Cudahy Environmental Health Inspector and the Wisconsin Food Safety Program that there have been scams surfacing in the area. A South Milwaukee restaurant was contact by a scammer on 11/30/2010.

This scam goes as follows:

Someone with or without an accent calls a food service establishment and claims that he works for the Federal Government. This person indicates that there were complaints about food quality in the area and he or she would be doing inspections of several local food establishments. This caller gives various names and phone numbers. The caller indicates that Mr. XXXX, an inspector from the Federal Government, would eat a meal at the local establishment and then would conduct an inspection of that establishment. The caller indicates that the local health department would also be involved in the inspection.

Within 10 seconds of the end of the phone conversation, the food establishment's phone would ring and a computer message gives a number that the establishment must present to the inspector. The computer message also gives the establishment a number and a reference on Craig's List.

There may be variations to this scam. Any Cudahy food establishment that receives such a phone call should contact the Cudahy Health Department at 414-769-2239 X 300 or the Wisconsin Food Safety Program at 608-266-8351.